

# DIRTY PALETTE

A newsletter published by the Art Guild of Pacifica July-Aug. 2008

[www.artguildofpacifica.org](http://www.artguildofpacifica.org)

## APOLITICAL, BE POLITICAL



In the few waning days of the Bush presidency, members of the AGP seem to be focused not so much on him and his blundering administration (although there are a few entries) but on other subjects, such as climate change.

Dan Underhill's digital collage, "What Can We Still Yet Salvage Of The United States Constitution?"

takes a darkly humorous approach, showing Bush and his administration burning a copy of the constitution from the bottom up. Jerry Ross Barrish assemblage, "Victim of Abuse," is equally damning of Bush's tenure in office with his ragged version of the Statue of Liberty made up of found objects.

There are several war related entries. Ann West's "Death Train," oil on canvas, depicts a dark train crossing a desolate landscape. David Macy's steel I-beam sculpture, "66 Years After Guernica," takes imagery from Picasso's great anti-



war painting and reminds us that the plight of an innocent citizenry during war hasn't changed in six decades. Ramon Bravo's mixed media piece "Blue Bird of Happiness" is an ironic piece that has a stuffed bird perched on a jagged display of metal and bullet casings.

For this reviewer, it's the grief on the face of a wailing child that steals the show. Jan Bernard's acrylic on canvas, "Child After Family Picnic At Gaza Beach" (*far left, top*) seizes the viewer by the heart with its spare imagery that is reminiscent of the great Ben Shawn's work.

A humorous comment on politics in general is provided by Charles McDevitt's terrific "Political Pole"

(*detail shown above*). It's a mixed media piece painted onto a salvaged Victorian facade post.

Candace Troy has three entries featuring polar bears perched on rapidly melting ice floats: "Global Warming," "Searching For



A Way Out," and "Facing Extinction" (*left*). Elly Simmons also took polar bears as her motif in her archival pigment-ed print, "Polar Bears In Space." Charlotte Seekamp decided to make

her environmental comment on the peril of disappearing bees, but to make it big with her large mixed media piece, "Where Are The Bees?"

There are a few apolitical works also in the show. Otto's oil, "Kachina Doll" is an electric, vibrant display of line and primary colors. Stuart Harwood's mixed media "Is This Who I Might Have Been? (If I had Not Been Me)" shows a face made up of found objects. Chai Henn created a vibrant Impressionist encaustic wax work entitled "Autumn In Spain."

Elizabeth McClellan's impressive pencil drawing, "Midnight, Jack London, The Skunk and Elizabeth" leaps off the wall (*lower left*). There are too many other fine works to comment on here. Don't miss this exhibit.

The Rydell Visual Arts Fellows exhibit was curated by Susan Hillhouse, curator of exhibitions and collections for the Museum of Art and History at The McPherson Center in Santa Cruz.

Beverly Rayner’s work explores the psychological, philosophical and scientific paths people follow in pursuit of meaning and progress. Her works are mixed media constructions, and although sculptural in form, they are built around photographic imagery.

Hanna Hannah often works in groups of ten since that’s the minimum number of mourners at a Jewish memorial service. Her scrolls contain depictions of young children in dangerous situations. She sees herself as a “witness” to the newspaper photos, focusing on the “uncanny beauty that belies the tragedy.” “They are difficult to look at,” she says, “and impossible to look away from.”

Will Marino’s basic materials are paper dartboards and paper tickets. The dartboards are taken apart so that the rings of wound paper are unwound into long strips before being rewound into new patterns. The paper tickets are pushed and pulled into cones and other shapes to create sculptural works, then paired with other objects and coated with a gel medium.

Robert Larson sees himself a bit as an archeologist. During walks, he exhumes discarded material from the urban landscape. It’s where, as Robert puts it “humanity and nature collide” and our man-made items take on a weathered hue and texture after being exposed to the elements of nature. Back in his studio, the material is transposed into art—an art that becomes a strong comment on consumerism and cultural identity.



William Marino, “Partner Series”



Robert Larson, “Meditations on Top: Spinning”



Hanna Hannah, “Passage: Flight, Kososvo”



Beverly Rayner, “Conjuror”

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Curator & Artists’ Talk** for the Rydall Visual Arts Fellows Exhibit will take place on Sat. Sept. 6th from 1-3 pm.

**AGP’s 50th Annual Exhibit**, will be our next AGP show (Sept. 12-Oct. 18). Receiving: Sun. Sept. 7, 3-5 pm and Mon, Sept 8, 10-Noon. Reception on Fri. Sept. 12, 7-9 pm. Help celebrate our 50th Anniversary with some great artwork!

**The Bay Area Annual Exhibit** follows our 50th Annual Exhibit, starting on Oct. 24. Info can be found at [www.sanchezartcenter.org](http://www.sanchezartcenter.org). Just click on the Opportunities button for a prospectus.

The **Fog Fest Photo Contest** is underway, for information and an entry form, again go to [www.sanchezartcenter.org](http://www.sanchezartcenter.org) and click on the Opportunities button.

**The Mosaic Mural Program** at College of San Mateo, taught by Jude Pittman, is looking for artists who want to make mosaic murals. More info at 650-359-4336.

**Watercolor Artists of Sacramento Horizons** (WASH) invites you to enter the 30th Annual Open Show, “Go With The Flow ‘08” (Sept 2-27) \$15 fee for 1 or \$40 for 3 entries. Deadline for entries August 23. For info visit [SacFineArts.org](http://SacFineArts.org) or call (916) 505-1601.

**Our Current Show** was coordinated by Jerry Barrish and Nancy Russell who pitched in at the last moment for Annette Poitau who had a scheduling conflict. Many thanks to Jerry and Nancy. And best of luck to Annette in her upcoming move.



The Arc of San Francisco opened ArtReach in February of 2004 to provide an art institute experience for adult artists with developmental disabilities in San Mateo County. First based in Pacifica, it has recently moved to Daly City. Students at ArtReach learn art history and theory as well as various techniques in everything from drawing and painting to TV production. The students also study at Bay Area museums, visit professional art studios, performances and galleries.

(top) Kamyar Tabarroj, "Man and Woman" (acrylic on canvas)  
 (bottom left) Samantha Lavine, "Cool Colors Waves" (Sharpie on wood)

(center) Robert Margolis, "Mean Alligator" (acrylic on canvas)

(bottom middle) Vernon Guttman, "The Embarcadero Street Cars" (mixed media on canvas)

(bottom right) Tyrone Johnson, "This is My Idol Eric Clapton" (monotype)



**“ART QUOTES”**  
**Artists don’t make objects. Artists make mythologies.**  
**—Anish Kapoor**

**A Note From NANCY VICTORIA DAVIS, AGP President**

**“Go for the Gold”**

A golden kaleidoscope of creative styles should be presented in our upcoming 50th anniversary celebration—the Annual Member Show. I’m asking all members to enter work for this show (be it old work or new).

Fifty years is a long time and, in the arts, it’s quite an achievement! Over those years, the shifting social and civic currents of support and rejection have influenced the current direction of our Guild. As I see it, we are a large canvas; we are a work in progress—executed by a dedicated team of volunteers and friends of the arts. The Guild and our sister, the SAC, are a collage, a composition retrofitted with bits of poetic and visual context, whose colorful histories inspire a progressive direction for the “Center” as a cultural hub, supported and nurtured by our members.

Let’s celebrate and have a grand reception for all the artists of our guild. Join in the fun and go for the gold!

## ARTISTS SHOWS/ WORKSHOPS

**KATHY MILLER, ANNETTE POITAU, GEORGIA STORTI & CYNTHIA RETTIG** (winners of last year's Annual show) will exhibit their work in the East Wing • Sept. 12-Oct. 18

**GALE FRANCES**, a docent at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, has an oil on canvas piece "An Untitled Woman" in the SFMOMA staff show opening on July 18 • The work will be on exhibit until November 14th.

**SOME MEMBERS** of the AGP have entries in the Pacific Center for the Book Arts/ BookWorks 2008 at the Skylight Gallery, 6th floor of the San Francisco Public Library • 100 Larkin in San Francisco • thru Sept. 26.

**JT MORROW** now has an Online Store which features his art work on products such as T-shirts, coffee mugs, greeting cards and more • To view what's available, visit [www.jtmorrow.com](http://www.jtmorrow.com) and click on "New Store" in the menu bar.

**CHARNA CONWAY** teaches classes in Painting with Acrylic, Mosaic Arts, Fused Glass Jewelry, Bowls and Vases, Beading, and Glass • For more information visit [www.eyehighart.com](http://www.eyehighart.com)

**ART HISTORY AND WORLD CULTURE CLASS** • Tuesdays 10:15 - Noon • Stonestown Senior Center • 3150 20th Ave. • Taught by Linda Dever, City College Professor, through lectures and films • Open enrollment, drop in anytime; call 415-242-7135.

**SANCHEZ ART CENTER** Gallery hours are Fri-Sun, 1-5 pm. Office hours are Tues-Thur 1-5 pm. (closed holidays)

The Dirty Palette is published by the Art Guild of Pacifica.

Officers: Nancy Victoria Davis (President), Katherine Curry-Meria (VP), Jude Pittman (Secretary), Jennifer Alpaugh (Treasurer), Kathy Miller (Membership Dir.), Nancy Russell (West Wing Chair); and Directors: Mary Harris, Alice Kelmon, Gale Frances and JT Morrow.

Dirty Palette Editor: JT Morrow. For announcements call (650) 355-7899 or email [jt@jtmorrow.com](mailto:jt@jtmorrow.com) Copyright, 2008, Art Guild of Pacifica

### "ART QUOTES"

**Without tradition, art is a flock of sheep without a shepherd, without innovations, it is a corpse.**

—Winston Churchill

## DIRTY PALETTE

Art Guild of Pacifica  
1220 Linda Mar Blvd.  
Pacifica, CA 94044

(650) 355-1894

[www.artguildofpacific.org](http://www.artguildofpacific.org)